

above that the combination of Sanyo and Wennerstrum do not render obvious the Applicant's invention. The addition of an infrared lamp from Dhaemers does nothing to remedy those deficiencies. Moreover, as previously argued, the Dhaemers infrared lamp heats air, which is then allowed to enter an unsealed chamber. It does not use the infrared lamp to directly heat a sealed chamber. Applicant incorporates by reference herein the arguments already made regarding these points. Applicant again traverses the conclusion of the Examiner that the Sanyo transformer (2) and electrodes (3, 4), which are part of a plasma generator, are "heating means." Consequently, any combination of Dhaemers, Sanyo, and Wennerstrum does nothing to render obvious Claims 3-5, 7-8, and 27-28, and 30-31.

Claims 6, 9, 29, and 33-34 were rejected under a combination of Sanyo, Wennerstrum, Dhaemers, and Hunter. Hunter is used to add the concept of a load cell. Adding Hunter does nothing to remedy the essential deficiencies of of the Dhaemers, Sanyo, and Wennerstrum patents as was argued above. Those arguments will not be repeated here but are incorporated by reference herein.

Claims 10, 21, and 32 were rejected under the continuing combination of Sanyo, Wennerstrum, and Dhaemers with the addition of Davis. Davis was added to provide a heating pad. However, adding the Davis heating pad does nothing to remedy the deficiencies of the Wennerstrum, Dhaemers, and Sanyo references, as was argued above. Applicant will not repeat those arguments here but will incorporate them by reference herein.

#### COMMENT ON RESPONSE TO ARGUMENTS

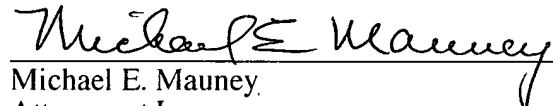
Examiner responds to Applicant's arguments stating that: "Applicant has attacked the deficiency of each and every piece of prior art reference but failed to acknowledge the combined teaching of the prior art references as stated in the rejection above." Applicant is unsure what is meant by the Examiner here. If a prior art reference does not say what the Examiner claims it says, then combining it with some other reference still leaves that deficiency of the attacked prior art reference in place. For example, here, the Examiner has called the Sanyo transformer (2) and electrodes (3, 4) a "heating means." Nowhere within the boundaries of the Sanyo reference does

the reference refer to this plasma generator as a heating means. There is no disclosure that electrodes (3,4) heat the interior of the sealed chamber in the Sanyo reference, nor does it disclose any means of, or reason for heating, the chamber during the ten minutes the plasma generation occurs. It is only because the Examiner has used the Applicant's own teaching of a need to heat a porous sample inside a vacuum chamber would the Examiner ever call the Sanyo generator and electrodes a heating means. This is exactly what is meant by hindsight reconstruction, which is prohibited. Consequently, any combination of Sanyo with other references, where the Sanyo reference is used to provide a "heating means", is deficient because the Sanyo reference itself does not disclose or suggest a heating means. The Examiner's use of the Wennerstrum reference and the Dhaemers reference is similarly deficient.

#### CONCLUSION

The Applicant has responded to each and every grounds for rejection by showing that the references used by the Examiner either do not show what the Examiner states they show, or that a combination of references is deficient for some other reason. Consequently, it is believed all claims remaining in this application are in a condition for allowance and the same is respectfully requested.

This the 6 day of Sept, 2005.

  
Michael E. Mauney  
Attorney at Law  
Post Office Box 10266  
Southport, NC 28461  
Telephone (910) 457-0056  
Registration #33731